

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article, comprising a main body including a front part~~[[,]]~~ and a back part spaced apart along a forward-and-backward direction and a crotch part coupling the front and back parts, the crotch part having opposite widthwise sides spaced apart along a width direction that is transverse to the forward-and-backward direction so that the crotch part defines a selected width, in the width direction wherein:

the main body includes a pair of waist edges opposed to each other along the forward-and-backward direction and a pair of leg edges opposed to each other along the width direction,

~~a shirring is so formed~~ elastic members secured in a substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body ~~as between the widthwise sides of the crotch part so that a width dimension of areas of the crotch part that have the elastic members is narrower than the width of the crotch part and so that the elastic members form a shirring to shorten a space between the front and back parts,~~

the space between the front and back parts is shorter at the widthwise middle portion of the crotch part than at both widthwise sides of the crotch part, ~~and the both widthwise sides of the crotch part forming part of a leg portion below an inverted forking of the crotch part shape upon wearing the trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article so that the widthwise sides of the crotch part are below the widthwise middle portion of the crotch part and so that the widthwise sides of the crotch part define parts of legs of the trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article, and~~

a ratio of the length of the crotch part along the ~~forward and backward~~ forward-and-backward direction to a length between the pair of waist edges is 1:15 to 1:2.

2. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein the shirring is formed by making folds in the substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body to shorten the substantially widthwise middle portion in a direction coupling the front and back parts and by retaining the wavy shape of the substantially widthwise middle portion.

3. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein the shirring is formed by the shrinking force of an elastic member attached to the substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body under a stretched state in a direction coupling the front and back parts.

4. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 3, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

5. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 4, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

6. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 5, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

Claims 7-10 (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 2, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

12. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 2, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

13. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 2, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

14. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 3, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

15. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 3, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

16. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 4, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

17. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

18. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

19. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

20. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 15, wherein the gore is defined substantially at the widthwise middle portion of the crotch part and extends up toward a wearer.

21. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 15, wherein the elastic member in the widthwise middle portion of the

crotch part has a widthwise dimension less than widthwise dimensions of the crotch part as measured between the respective leg edges.

22. (currently amended) A trunk-type or bloomers-type wearing article according to claim 1, wherein a distance between the widthwise middle portion of the crotch part and the waist edges is less than a distance between the widthwise sides of the crotch part and the waist edges.